



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

National Conservation Training Center

Training Announcement

Structured Decision Making: An Overview for Managers *ALC3183*

Course Description

This course focuses on the elements of formal decision analysis that are most relevant to managers in USFWS and USGS. This overview is distilled from a week-long Introduction to Structured Decision Making course, but focuses less on the quantitative aspects of decision analysis and more on the steps that require the active engagement of the decision-maker. The 2-day course takes managers through the ProACT process, a helpful roadmap for decomposing problems and applying systematic thinking to make decisions. Other concepts covered include weighing risk, adaptive management, and managing small to large decision problems. This course and the entire NCTC SDM curriculum were developed in partnership with USGS.



Objectives

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Articulate the benefits of using a formal, transparent decision making process, and how that may contrast with other intuitive decision-making styles
 - Participate effectively in a structured decision-making process by
 - a. Directing staff to use the process when appropriate
 - b. Understanding the decision-maker's role in the process
 - c. Estimating the investment of time and resources needed for a decision analysis
 - d. Helping define the problem
 - e. Formulating objectives and weighting them appropriately
 - f. Critically evaluating alternatives, consequences, and trade-offs
 - g. Articulating your risk tolerance
- Successfully step through a multi-objective natural resource problem using the ProACT process.
- Identify when adaptive management is warranted

Date

Offered on demand

Location

NCTC, Shepherdstown, WV

Who Should Attend

Managers who have decision-making authority either solely or as part of a larger decision-making body. Managers in FWS, USGS, or other DOI bureaus looking to improve the decision making skills in their offices, or who may be participants in an SDM process, are encouraged to attend.

Length

2 days

College Credit

Not applicable

Tuition

There is no tuition for FWS, NPS, BLM and USGS employees. For participants from other agencies and organizations, check current announcement for rate.

To Register

Register online at <http://training.fws.gov> using DOI Learn, the Department of the Interior's Learning Management System.

Availability

Course is offered upon demand.

Contact

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Structured Decision Making is "A formalization of common sense for decision problems which are too complex for informal use of common sense" Ralph Keeney (1982)